Canada Pays More for Hogs Than the United States.

The fallacious statement is being circulated throughout the country by partisan speakers, especially in Ontario, that the Canadian farmer, in the event of Reciprocity, would be able to get more on the markets of the United States for nearly everything he grows than he receives at the present time at home. Two speakers in particular, Mr. E. C. Drury and Mr. W. L. Smith, editor of the "Weekly Sun," base their contentions as to livestock prices on a comparative statement, published about three weeks ago in Mr. Smith's paper. This statement, prepared by Mr. Smith himself, gives a comparison of hog prices on the Toronto and Buffalo markets for a period of 7 years (1904 to 1910 inclusive) and shows that the average price for those 7 years at Toronto was $6.90, as against $6.92 at Buffalo. Giving Mr. Smith the benefit of supposing Buffalo to be a typical hog market in the United States (which is absolutely not the case), it is interesting to note Mr. Smith's average record of the years from 1904 to 1910. He shows the following averages, which for three years were higher in Toronto than in Buffalo, and for three years were higher in Buffalo than in Toronto, while for one year both markets were the same:—

	Average Buffalo.	Average Toronto.
1904	$5.63	$5.09
1905	5.68	6.22
1906	6.72	7.13
1907	6.79	6.77
1908	6.11	6.40
1909	7.81	7.81
1910	9.69	8.91

On this difference, therefore, of two cents in the average price of hogs for seven years in two small markets, Mr. Smith and others argue that the Canadian farmer will get more for his pork in the United States than he will at home.

But Buffalo is not the whole United States market, nor is it as good a barometer of hog conditions as Chicago, and taking prices in their broadest application to Canada and the United States as two countries, indisputable

authorities on both sides of the line prove that hogs are and have been worth more in Canada, and that the hog industry is in a more flourishing condition in Canada than in the United States. This condition exists notwithstanding the fact that Canada is not a successful grower of Indian corn.

If the Government at Ottawa could put into the hands of every farmer in Ontario, Document No. 849 of the United States Senate, the false arguments of certain so-called agriculturists would fall on bare ground. Document 849 is the message from President Taft transmitting in response to Senate resolution of February 23rd, 1911, a report from the Tariff Board relative to various commodities named in the proposed Canadian Reciprocity measure. It contains, amongst other data, average comparative prices of agricultural products in United States and Canada, based on a broad and detailed examination of many markets in both countries.

The "Weekly Sun" and its adherents to the contrary notwithstanding the above-mentioned Senate document says:—

> "Prices of swine are slightly higher in Canada than in the United States. In our Eastern border states—Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont and New York—they range from $10.00 to $11.50 per head; and in the Central border states the range is about the same. In the Western border states the range of prices is from $10.40 to $11.10 per head. In the great agricultural states of Indiana, Illinois and Iowa, prices of swine vary little from those already quoted. In Eastern Canada the range of swine prices is from $10 to $13 per head, and in Western Canada from $12 to $13. The highest American price is $11.80 per head in Wisconsin, as against the highest Canadian price of $13 a head, which is quoted for Quebec, Manitoba and Saskatchewan."

Why is it that an American board of investigators thus finds itself confronted with these superior conditions in Canada? Simply because of the better product cultivated by the Canadian farmer. With regard to this point of quality in our hogs, Document No. 849 again says:—

> "The lack of corn, the existence of a well-established dairy production and the availability of suitable farage, has led to the introduction of another agricultural specialty in which Ontario excels, to wit, the breeding and rearing of bacon pigs, as contrasted with the heavy corn-fed lard hog of our Middle West."

So much for authoritative statements from the United States. Now for the Canadian point of view, which, from those who know, coincides exactly with the dicta quoted from Document No. 849.

Figures are at hand from Canadian packing companies, who have kept comparative records of hog prices on both sides of the border for the last

five years,showing conclusively that the markets have been higher for a series of years in Canada than they have been in the United States. The following typical table shows the total receipts of hogs at the Chicago market and the average prices paid on that market, and the prices paid by a large firm in Canada from the year 1901 to 1910 inclusive :—

Year.	Chicago Total Receipts.	Chicago aver. price per cwt.	Canadian aver. price per cwt.	Canadian price above Chicago.
1901	8,290,494	$5.85	$6.70	$0.85
1902	7,895,238	6.85	6.68	....
1903	7,325,923	6.00	6.07	.07
1904	7,238,746	5.15	5.32	.17
1905	7,725,738	5.25	6.41	1.16
1906	7,275,063	6.25	7.17	.92
1907	7,201,061	6.10	6.85	.75
1908	8,131,465	5.70	6.87	1.17
1909	6,619,018	7.35	8.04	.69
1910	5,586,858	8.90	9.11	.21

Only in the year 1902 were prices so high in Chicago that the average for the twelve months exceeded that of Canada by 17 cents per cwt. In the past five years hog prices have been consistently higher in Canada, and this too in the face of steadily decreasing receipts at Chicago. The above table, it may be said, is absolutely correct, and the books of the company from which the information was compiled are open to inspection by any Government officer for verification. The table is but the statistical story of many a Canadian packing house.

The Honourable Mr. Paterson, like Mr. W. L. Smith of the "Weekly Sun," got his figures for 1910 by taking the Buffalo market as a guide and by using the quotations on the selected hogs called Yorkers. Their calculations are based on Buffalo in that way as against all Canada, which is manifestly unfair, as Yorkers by no means constitute the average run of hogs into any market, much less Buffalo. The average prices made up in the above table are based on all classes of receipts.

So far as hogs are concerned, therefore, prices furnished by the home markets are undeniably higher than those paid to the farmer in the United States, and those ardent advocates of Reciprocity who see such enhanced values in Uncle Sam's domain for everything the Canadian farmer grows must revise their bases of argument according to the facts.

The following table of prices is even more convincing of the superiority of the Canadian markets than the one shown above. This array of figures comprises a comparative weekly average of live hog prices at Chicago, Toronto and Montreal for the greater part of the years extending from 1905 to March 24, 1911. The record given herewith is taken from the books of a prominent Canadian packing company and is open to examination by any person for verification :—

COMPARATIVE WEEKLY STATEMENT FOR SIX YEARS.

Week Ending	1905		1906		1907		1908			1909			1910			1911		
	Chic.	Tor.	Chic.	Tor.	Chic.	Tor.	Chic.	Tor.	Mont.	Chic.	Tor.	Mont.	Chic.	Tor.	Mont.	Chic.	Tor.	Mont.
	Per Cwt.		Per Cwt.		Per Cwt.		Per Cwt.			Per Cwt.			Per Cwt.			Per Cwt.		
Jan. 6	$4.58		$5.27	$6.88	$6.38	$6.72	$4.55	$6.11		$6.01	$6.60	$6.69	$8.65	$8.70	$9.07	$7.98–$8.15	$7.52	$7.84
" 13	4.71		5.38	6.68	6.44	7.01	4.45	6.22		6.03	6.66	6.92	8.57	8.87	9.21	7.85– 8.07	7.67	7.98
" 20	4.59		5.40	7.03	6.52	7.24	4.38	6.17		6.21	6.81	7.16	8.60	9.08	9.50	7.92– 8.02	7.87	8.23
" 27	4.77		5.50	7.36	6.67	7.03	4.33	5.84		6.26	6.91	7.45	8.31	9.15	9.45	7.68– 7.80	7.98	8.14
Feb. 3	4.77		5.61	7.22	6.90	7.01	4.35	5.62		6.37	7.06	7.52	8.50	8.95	9.10	7.42– 7.76	7.77	7.94
" 10	4.85		5.86	6.87	7.02	7.23	4.42	5.54		6.38	7.27	7.72	8.75	8.85	9.07	7.42– 7.70	7.72	7.88
" 17	4.97		6.06	7.07	7.10	7.14	4.31	5.56		6.37	7.26	7.66	9.17	8.76	9.27	7.06– 7.32	7.70	7.83
" 24	4.85		6.20	7.18	7.02	7.16	4.36	5.57		6.37	7.05	7.43	9.49	9.00	9.69	7.14– 7.28	7.54	7.71
Mar. 3	4.95		6.22	7.21	6.98	7.25	4.41	5.45		6.47	7.11	7.47	9.84	9.28	9.69	6.99– 7.12	7.41	7.66
" 10	5.08		6.32	7.22	6.93	7.19	4.46	5.32		6.69	7.25	7.75	10.42	9.57	10.06	6.92– 7.10	7.26	7.48
" 17	5.32		6.25	7.23	6.87	7.22	4.63	5.45		6.70	7.56	7.80	10.82	9.90	10.40	6.82– 6.94	7.35	7.48
" 24	5.37		6.40	7.38	6.53	7.28	4.84	5.63		6.84	7.74	7.92	10.81	10.25	10.65	6.65– 6.82	7.30	
" 31	5.34		6.39	7.42	6.27	7.36	5.36	5.86	$6.50	6.97	7.61	7.94	10.88	10.51	10.61			
Apr. 7	5.51		6.44	7.58	6.78	7.21	6.08	5.99	7.24	7.20	7.54	7.96	10.57	10.52	10.50			
" 14	5.57		6.49	7.64	6.65	7.02	6.05	6.71	7.30	7.23	7.68	7.99	10.14	10.24	10.45			
" 21	5.46		6.65	7.66	6.63	6.78	5.84	6.76	6.99	7.23	7.76	8.11	9.22	10.01	10.31			
" 28	5.33		6.50	7.64	6.58	6.81	5.67	6.84	6.95	7.25	7.90	8.25	9.52	9.90	10.06			
May 5	5.42		6.43	7.74	6.49	6.78	5.59	6.77	6.99	7.26	7.96	8.25	9.44	9.44	10.00			
" 12	5.47		6.43	7.68	6.46	6.84	5.61	6.69	6.96	7.28	7.83	8.32	9.58	9.51	9.85			
" 19	5.39		6.51	7.52	6.43	7.05	5.52	6.44	6.85	7.28	8.06	8.49	9.66	9.88	10.50			
" 26	5.44		6.39	7.62	6.39	7.22	5.54	6.42	6.83	7.34	8.33	8.55	9.55	10.23	10.58			
June 2	5.31		6.46	7.79	6.18	7.43	5.41	6.46	6.78	7.42	8.42	8.85	9.48	10.33	10.46			
" 9	5.35		6.45	7.99	6.24	7.53	5.50	6.50	6.87	7.51	8.38	8.66	9.48	10.14	10.31			
" 16	5.35		6.56	8.01	6.11	7.32	5.54	6.55	6.62	7.80	8.22	8.53	9.46	9.85	10.21			
" 23	5.30		6.56	7.94	6.15	7.38	5.73	6.68	6.89	7.69	8.45	8.76	9.46	9.87	10.16			
" 30	5.48		6.64	8.12	5.93	7.21	6.07	6.80	6.99	7.75	8.56	8.80	9.25	9.83	9.98			
July 7	5.53		6.72	8.10	5.97	7.09	6.38	7.01	7.16	7.89	8.58	8.86	9.10	9.64	9.91			
" 14	5.60		6.79	8.23	5.88	7.15	6.49	7.37	7.27	7.86	8.68	8.89	8.69	9.54	9.79			
" 21	5.81		6.66	8.33	5.83	7.44	6.71	7.29	7.31	7.96	8.73	8.88	8.57	9.82	10.19			
" 28	5.73		6.67	8.37	6.10	7.42	6.54	7.38	7.22	7.67	8.81	8.95	8.52	10.11	10.54			
Aug. 4	5.83		6.39	8.38	6.19	7.41	6.42	7.44	7.22	7.76	8.87	8.87	8.03	10.29	10.37			
" 11	5.96		6.15	8.10	5.97	7.40	6.61	7.30	7.17	7.66	8.73	8.72	8.06	9.85	9.74			
" 18	6.00		6.06	7.81	6.05	7.23	6.55	7.13	7.01	7.79	8.56	8.52	8.17	9.24	9.55			
" 25	6.04		6.20	7.36	5.97	7.21	6.58	7.06	7.17	7.87	8.46	8.62	8.62	9.27	9.66			
Sep. 1	5.94		6.08	6.99	6.03	7.00	6.40	6.98	7.12	7.93	8.69	8.80	9.04	9.24	9.44			
" 8	5.61		6.05	6.83	5.87	6.74	6.72	7.15	7.36	8.17	8.76	8.94	9.12	9.42	9.43			
" 15	5.46		6.17	6.80	5.98	6.73	6.82	7.32	7.22	8.23	9.05	9.29	8.93	9.51	9.43			
" 22	5.53		6.20	6.78	5.91	6.68	7.08	7.47	7.51	8.23	9.21	9.29	8.79	9.50	9.57			
" 29	5.42		6.44	6.84	6.15	6.56	6.96	7.68	7.55	8.14	9.15	9.20	8.78	9.53	9.51			
Oct. 6	5.39		6.50	7.00	6.15	6.65	6.74	7.22	7.14	7.87	8.83	9.03	8.55	9.57	9.31			
" 13	5.35		6.38	7.10	6.46	6.68	6.23	6.91	6.88	7.64	8.49	8.83	8.50	9.30	9.06			
" 20	5.29		6.39	7.02	6.45	6.69	5.75	6.77	6.62	7.67	8.37	8.83	8.58	8.92	8.79			
" 27	5.11		6.27	6.70	5.94	6.72	5.50	6.62	6.54	7.81	8.43	8.77	8.43	8.63	8.34			
Nov. 3	5.00	$5.99	6.20	6.29	5.72	6.69	5.74	6.44	6.43	7.84	8.37	8.71	8.06	7.91	7.74			
" 10	4.96	5.79	6.13	6.04	5.30	6.34	5.95	6.36	6.54	7.99	8.42	8.73	8.00	7.59	7.73			
" 17	4.81	5.82	6.18	5.98	5.15	6.23	5.84	6.47	6.73	8.04	8.24	8.69	7.40	7.39	7.55			
" 24	4.80	5.85	6.19	6.24	4.60	6.05	5.70	6.66	6.81	8.08	8.17	8.51	7.01	7.34	7.48			
Dec. 1	4.87	6.14	6.09	6.63	4.39	5.67	5.71	6.65	6.74	8.20	8.14	8.60	7.19	7.45	7.52			
" 8	4.94	6.44	6.30	6.81	4.96	5.30	5.74	6.39	6.66	8.43	8.22	8.67	7.52	7.25	7.33			
" 15	4.86	6.66	6.16	6.74	4.64	5.68	5.60	6.37	6.66	8.45	8.36	8.83	7.62	7.02	7.29			
" 22	5.00	6.45	6.28	6.60	4.50	5.92	5.52	6.35	6.68	8.29	8.46	8.81	7.77	7.13	7.42			
" 29	5.15	6.42	6.30	6.62	4.51	6.05	5.56	6.40	6.70	8.41	8.55	9.06	7.80	7.29	7.52			